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TAKE A TRIP TO CALIFORNIA THIS MAY LONG WEEKEND, WITHOUT LEAVING YOUR BACKYARD

PAGE 20

Teen recounts escape from Boko Haram

The 19-year-old says more of the girls could have escaped but were frightened by their captors' threats to shoot them

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Temp-worker ban not sitting well with Que.

Province wants Ottawa to lift the restriction on restaurants hiring temporary foreign workers

PAGE 9

Bureaucracy allowed diplomat to flee: Cops

Investigation. Red tape helped official avoid human trafficking charges, police say

Ottawa police say bureaucracy contributed to a diplomat fleeing Canada with her husband, once the pair found out they were to be charged with forcing a Filipino woman into "modern day slavery."

Police made the investigation public Friday in a news release, alleging a diplomat at the Embassy of the Philippines and her husband exploited their 26-year-old nanny for financial and material benefit. The woman came to Canada legally, spoke very little English, and worked for the diplomats from July 2009 to December 2013.

The investigation began in December 2013 after a third party made a complaint to police. After months of investigation police wanted to arrange an interview with the couple, but nothing could be done without their diplomatic immunity being waived.

"The embassy is the one that ultimately decides if the immunity is waived," said Insp. Paul Johnston with the Ottawa Police Service. "We don't have the means to arrest someone unless that waiver is provided to us. We knew it was a possibility they could leave the country."

On April 30, Ottawa police sent a request to the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade, and Development (DFATD) in order to lay charges against the two foreign nationals.

But DFATD informed Ottawa police on May 5 that the couple had surrendered their identification cards to the department and returned to the Philippines. Bueneflor Cruz, 44, and Robert Cruz, 45, are now wanted on a Canada-wide arrest warrant.

They were jointly charged with trafficking a person by exercising control, receiving material or financial benefit in the commission of trafficking, and withholding or destroying identification documents for the purpose of facilitating an offence. Robert Cruz is also charged with uttering threats to cause bodily harm and mischief under $5,000.

Johnston said rules surrounding dealing with foreign diplomats are a challenge for all police forces.

He said the accused couple brought the victim from the Philippines to Canada with proper documentation. She spoke little English and when she arrived her movements and access to communication were controlled, police say.

"The key thing in human trafficking (is) to create control and dependency," he added.

She is now in a safe location in Canada, police say.

Ottawa police are urging anyone who knows someone who may be a victim of human trafficking to report it to the Ottawa Police Human Trafficking Initiative by calling 613-236-1222 ext. 5005 or phone Crime Stoppers at 613-233-8477 (TIPS) or toll free at 1-800-222-8477.

JOE LOFARO/METRO

BUSKER DEFLATED

Magician and balloon artist Ian Quick says his visit to the Ottawa Tulip Festival went awry Sunday morning when he says he was told to stop busking in the park by someone wearing a National Capital Commission shirt. He said buskers used to perform at the festival for tips all the time. But the NCC says its officers didn't kick anyone out of the park. Story, page 4. SEAN MCKIBBON/METRO

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Via Rail has named a new chief executive officer little more than a week after a senior federal cabinet minister called for new leadership at the Crown corporation. THE CANADIAN PRESS

VIA Rail names new CEO

Calls for change. Baird says wrongful accusations against Ottawa transit drivers was last straw

Via Rail has named a new chief executive officer a little more than a week after a senior federal cabinet minister called for new leadership at the Crown corporation.

Yves Desjardins-Siciliano is taking over from Steve Del Bosco, who had been doing the job on an interim basis since the start of this year.

Desjardins-Siciliano had been serving as Via's chief corporate and legal officer and corporate secretary since 2010.

A statement from Via says he has held executive positions in a variety of industries in Toronto and Montreal.

The appointment comes after Foreign Affairs Minister John Baird publicly demanded Del Bosco's head.

Baird said he lost confidence in Del Bosco because of how Via has been communicating with the public over issues like technical problems with safety equipment at rail crossings.

Baird, whose riding is in the national capital region, said the last straw came last month when Via wrongly accused Ottawa transit buses of causing a signal malfunction at a crossing near his home.

Del Bosco will be resuming his previous role as Via's chief commercial planning officer, the statement said.

Desjardins-Siciliano called it an "honour" to get the job.

"The task ahead is to ensure that inter-city passenger rail continues to play a key role in the economic prosperity of Canada," Desjardins-Siciliano said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ridership

Via said last November that its overall ridership slipped two per cent to one million passengers in the third quarter of 2013, compared with the same period a year earlier.

- However, it said ridership in the vital Quebec City-Windsor, Ont., corridor rose six per cent to 912,000.
- Via operates intercity, regional and transcontinental trains linking 450 communities across its 12,500-kilometre route network, carrying almost four million passengers annually.

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Busking magician told to disappear

Ian Quick. He was hired to perform at the Canadian Tulip Festival

SEAN MCKIBBON
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A magician who goes by the stage name Ian Quick says on Sunday a woman in a blue National Capital Commission shirt told he wasn't allowed to make balloon animals for tips inside Commissioner's Park at the Canadian Tulip Festival.

"She said, 'You can't busk here,' I said, 'What do you want me to do? I'm a busker,'" says Quick, who had been paid to perform at the festival, but found he was mistaken when he thought that meant he could busk inside the park.

What ensued he says was about 15 minutes of tulipfest volunteers trying to make compromises to allow him to continue (such as getting out a tulipfest donation jar to raise money to pay him to do balloon animals) but then telling him that wasn't going to work and asking him to move to an authorized busking spot at the Dow's Lake pavilion.

Ian Quick gestures at an audience volunteer during his authorized paid performance at the Canadian Tulip Festival. SEAN MCKIBBON/METRO

NCC spokesman Jean Wolff, told Metro that NCC Conservation officers had no record of expelling anyone from the park and he said that during the festival the tulip festival organizers can say who can perform on the NCC ground. He said by Quick's own account it appeared it was tulip festival people and not an NCC official who ultimately told Quick to move.

Laura Brown-Breetvelt, the festival's executive director, attributed the mix-up to a miscommunication, saying that Quick should have checked in first with the tulip festival before setting up to busk; had that happened, he would have been directed to the Dow's Lake area, where she said the festival is having all of its buskers perform for tips.

Quick said the Dow's Lake area doesn't have nearly the traffic that is in Commissioner's Park. His paid performance in the park went well, and he said he would do that again, but he said if he's invited back next year to busk he won't busk at Dow's Lake.

National Day of Honour salutes Afghanistan vets

Governor General David Johnston, while inspecting the guard during a National Day of Honour ceremony in Ottawa on Friday, shakes hands with a police officer who served in Afghanistan. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Teens face charges in relation to ‘swatting’

Crime. Three teens were arrested for alleged involvement in incidents designed to get a police SWAT team to respond

Three teens, two from Ontario and one from Quebec, are facing charges following an investigation into so-called “swatting” incidents across North America.

A 16-year-old Ottawa youth is facing 60 charges for alleged involvement in dozens of incidents across North America designed to get a police SWAT team to respond.

A Milton, Ont., teen was arrested and charged with public mischief after an April 30 incident that led to the evacuation of Jean Vanier Catholic Secondary School in west of Toronto.

A 15-year-old boy from Laval, Que., north of Montreal, was arrested Thursday and charged with allegedly using a telephone or a computer to target a shopping centre, two homes, and the same school twice.

The Ottawa youth was arrested Thursday and faces charges that include public mischief, mischief to property, and uttering death threats in relation to swatting incidents across the continent.

“Swatting is a term utilized online to refer to engaging emergency services with false calls to affect revenge on an individual or organization by causing the response of armed SWAT teams to active shooter scenarios or bomb threats,” Ottawa police Staff Sgt. Rick Baldwin-Ooms said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Welcoming spring with tulips

Claudia Ninh, three, and her aunt Titana Nguyen, both from Montreal, take in the sights at the Canadian Tulip Festival Sunday. The Festival runs May 9-19. Upcoming highlights include a fireworks celebration May 14 and 17 at 9:30 p.m. over Dow’s Lake. For more information on the festival go to http://tulipfestival.ca. SEAN MCKIBBON/METRO

Fatality

Collision kills 9-year-old girl

A nine-year-old girl is dead after a collision between a car and a farm vehicle Sunday south of Woodstock, Ont.

Provincial police say a Terra-Gator fertilizer sprayer collided with a car travelling in the opposite direction in Otterville just after 9 a.m. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Highway 7

SIU investigates vehicle pursuit that led to injuries

The province’s police watchdog is investigating after three people were taken to hospital following a highway pursuit near Peterborough, Ont.

Police say officers began a short pursuit when a vehicle being operated erratically on Highway 7 on Saturday evening refused to stop. OPP say the vehicle crossed into oncoming traffic and struck another vehicle near Highway 7 and Keene Road.

The driver of the vehicle being pursued was taken to a Toronto hospital with life-threatening injuries.

Two people in the second vehicle were admitted to a Peterborough hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

The Special Investigations Unit is investigating. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Caledon

Chainsaw incident hospitalizes man

A man in his 70s is being treated for life-threatening injuries after he had an accident with a chainsaw in Caledon.

He was reportedly cutting tree branches at a residence on Airport Rd. late Saturday afternoon when he suffered a severe injury to his arm. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Fairy-tale enthusiasts re-enact a scene from Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs for bystanders at Ottawa Comiccon on Sunday. JOE LOFARO/METRO

Comiccon '14: Will Gus Fring call Saul?

Giancarlo Esposito Q & A. Breaking Bad actor speaks to Ottawa fans about his future on TV after iconic role

JOE LOFARO
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Hours after NBC announced two of his shows were cancelled, American actor Giancarlo Esposito of Breaking Bad fame graced the stage at Ottawa Comiccon Friday night. He spilled the beans on how fans might see his legendary character Gus Fring on screen one more time.

Esposito, 42, is best known these days as the vengeful drug lord Fring on the hit show that ended its fifth and final season on AMC last September.

He is also known as Tom Neville in the television series Revolution and as Gilbert Lawson on the fan favourite, Community.

NBC cancelled both shows among a few others Friday, moments before Esposito hit the stage for a live Q & A session with hundreds of fans at the Ernst and Young Centre in Ottawa.

So naturally, a fan asked him if he's inclined to accept an offer from Breaking Bad creator Vince Gilligan to make an appearance in a spinoff series, Better Call Saul.

"I'm free and open, baby!" bellowed Esposito into the microphone. "What a day. Would I love to do it for all of you fans and for myself? Yes. But should Gus make an appearance on a show about Saul — it doesn't really excite me, because Gus is iconic."

Esposito, who a week earlier won his star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, said strangers call him Gus on the street. He admitted he is on the fence about bringing Gus back, especially if it's just for one episode.

"I probably wouldn't even go back for two because I would want your vision of who Gus is to live on forever as is. For me, he's done," said Esposito.

But then he gave the audience some hope.

"If it were a show about the rise of Gus, I might consider it. I might consider doing 13 episodes about Gus's life before you met him on Breaking Bad. But that would have to be an option for Vince."

Giancarlo Esposito poses backstage at Ottawa Comiccon on Friday before going on stage. JOE LOFARO/METRO

Preserving the character

"Would I love to do it for all of you fans and for myself? Yes. But should Gus make an appearance on a show about Saul — it doesn't really excite me, because Gus is iconic."

Actor Giancarlo Esposito, 42, on playing Gus Fring, his iconic character in the AMC hit Breaking Bad, in a spinoff series called Better Call Saul

The Lamarche family was all decked out in costumes for Ottawa Comiccon Sunday. JOE LOFARO/METRO

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Hudak photo op derailed by transit cops upset with media

Rules. TTC says video on transit system for commercial purposes must get OK in advance, political canvassing off limits

A major Ontario election platform announcement from the Progressive Conservatives nearly went off the rails Sunday as transit officers put the brakes on a subway photo-op by leader Tim Hudak.

Hudak and a throng of media were in the process of boarding a Toronto subway train around noon Sunday when city transit police appeared and started asking about video camera lights and shooting permits.

The Tory leader was to ride the train with the pack of journalists up to mid-town Toronto and unveil his party's transportation platform by a subway yard.

But the trip was brought to a standstill by Toronto Transit Commission officers, who showed up on the platform and took umbrage with the light on a CBC camera.

They summoned the camera operator off the car and questioned TV journalists on whether they had permission to film on transit property.

"In order to film on the TTC you need to have authorization. We're trying to see if you guys have that authorization," one officer said.

As the situation went on, agitation among riders making Mother's Day trips started to rise, with the hold-up dragging on for about 10 minutes. One bellowed "come on" at the whole ordeal.

Despite passengers getting grumpy and some tense moments with transit police, Hudak kept his composure, at times flashing a smile fit for a campaign sign.

With no immediate end to the impasse in sight, Hudak then hopped off the car — taking the media in tow — and left the station.

Hudak hopped in a vehicle to get to his platform unveiling, while Tory staffers corralled the media bus to whisk journalists to the slightly delayed announcement.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Announcement

Hudak revealed that if elected, his Tories would have the province take control of Toronto subways, among other promises aimed at relieving gridlock.

Security waits as Ontario PC Leader Tim Hudak leaves a food truck festival during a campaign stop in Whitby, Ont. on Saturday. DARREN CALABRESE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Premier defends ad that attacks NDP, says it's not personal

Premier Kathleen Wynne is defending a new Liberal ad that targets the leader of Ontario's New Democrats, saying Sunday that the online clip wasn't a personal attack.

The 30-second spot voiced by Wynne shows left-wing-friendly proposals from the Liberal budget — an increased child benefit and a home-grown Ontario pension plan among them — which NDP Leader Andrea Horwath rejected when she refused to support the fiscal plan. At the end of the ad Wynne asks, "Is Andrea Horwath for real?"

When asked to explain the strategy behind the ad, Wynne said the clip was meant to be a statement of what Horwath and her party voted against when they chose not to support the budget, setting the stage for the June 12 election.

"I have been clear all along that I was not going to engage in personal attacks. The ad is not a personal attack, the ad is a statement of what Ms. Horwath and the NDP voted against in our budget," Wynne said.

Ontario Liberal Leader Kathleen Wynne, second from right, is joined by other Liberal candidates at the Breast Cancer Society of Canada's Mother's Day Walk in Mississauga, Ont., on Sunday. DARREN CALABRESE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

"This is about making a contrast because people in an election need to know what it is we stand for. We stand for the things that were in our budget."

The NDP has countered that the budget promised 70 new plans at a time when the Liberal government hadn't delivered on three promises from last year — a reference to an auto insurance rate cut, financial accountability oversight, and home care improvement.

Wynne, however, suggested that the NDP was to blame for the stalling of what would have been beneficial government initiatives.

The Liberals' new ad is out now online and will be broadcast on traditional media starting May 21, once a political advertising blackout ends.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Catholic nuns attend a mass given in honour of the kidnapped Chibok schoolgirls, in Abuja, Nigeria, Sunday. Failure to rescue the girls, captive for nearly four weeks, has attracted mounting international outrage. SUNDAY ALAMBA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'Too terrifying for words': Teen who fled captors

Nigerian schoolgirls. Pope tweets call for prayer with #BringBackOurGirls

One of the teenagers who escaped from Islamic extremists who abducted more than 300 schoolgirls says the kidnapping was "too terrifying for words," and she is now scared to go back to school.

Sarah Lawan, a 19-year-old science student, spoke Sunday as Nigerians prayed for the safety of the 276 students still held captive. Their prayers were joined by Pope Francis.

"Let us all join in prayer for the immediate release of the schoolgirls kidnapped in Nigeria," the Roman Catholic leader tweeted, using the trending #BringBackOurGirls.

Lawan said that more of the girls could have escaped, but that they were frightened by their captors' threats to shoot them. She spoke in the local Hausa language in a phone interview from Chibok, her home and the site of the mass abduction in northeast Nigeria.

The failure to rescue those who remain captive four weeks later has attracted mounting outrage. Last week, Nigeria was forced to accept international help in the search, after ignoring offers for weeks.

More experts are expected in Nigeria to help rescue the girls, including U.S. hostage negotiators and others from Britain, France, China and Spain.

"I am pained that my other colleagues could not summon the courage to run away with me," Lawan said. "Now I cry each time I come across their parents and see how they weep when they see me."

Police say 53 students have escaped. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"I am really scared to go back there; but I have no option if I am asked to go because I need to finish my final-year exams."

Sarah Lawan, who escaped from Boko Haram extremists, on returning to school

International outrage

Gov't refused help for weeks

The president of Nigeria for weeks refused international help to search for more than 300 girls abducted from a school by Islamic extremists, one in a series of missteps that have led to growing international outrage against the government.

The U.K. first said it was ready to help the day after the mass abduction on April 15, according to the British Foreign Office. And the U.S. has said it offered help and was in touch with Nigeria "from Day 1" of the crisis, according to Secretary of State John Kerry. Yet it was only on Tuesday and Wednesday, almost a month later, that President Goodluck Jonathan accepted help from the U.S., Britain, France and China.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New puppy fashion trend: Human overcoats

Cassandra Cantu shields her seven-week-old puppy Kamala from the snow as she walks with friends in the Bear Creek Dog Park in Colorado Springs, Colo., on Sunday. The snowy weather was expected to continue in the area overnight Sunday. MARK REIS/THE GAZETTE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quebec wants to be exempt from temp-worker ban

Province 'a bit worried.' But federal employment minister's spokesman says there are no plans to lift the moratorium

The Quebec government is calling on Ottawa to lift the ban on restaurants hiring temporary foreign workers — at least in its own province.

Quebec's immigration minister Kathleen Weil was to meet with her federal counterpart Chris Alexander on Monday, according to spokesman Dave McMahon, who said Weil will ask that Quebec be granted an exemption to the moratorium.

"We are a bit worried about the impact of the moratorium on our restaurants and on our small- and medium-sized businesses," he said Sunday.

"We are ready to work with the federal government to tighten the rules of the program if need be."

Weil is also planning to make the same case to Employment Minister Jason Kenney, who oversees the temporary foreign workers program, McMahon said.

A spokeswoman for Kenney said there are no immediate plans to lift the ban, in Quebec or anywhere else.

"Abuse of the temporary foreign worker program will not be tolerated," Alexandra Fortier said in an email.

"Allegations of misuse will continue to be investigated and any employer found to have violated the rules will face serious consequences." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Background

Ottawa announced the moratorium last month, after a string of reports alleging the program was being misused by the restaurant industry.

- The moratorium has been widely criticized by industry groups. Quebec's restaurant association called it "exaggerated and unreasonable."

Politics

Tories downplay expectations for June byelections

The federal Conservatives are keeping expectations modest for their prospects in four byelections — two in Alberta, two in Ontario — set for the end of June.

"We all know majority governments don't typically fare well in byelections; the opposition parties do," said Cory Hann, communications director of the Conservative Party.

"And these rounds we don't expect to be any different."

The Conservatives anticipate hanging on to the two Alberta ridings, but do not expect to win more than 10 per cent of the vote in each of two Toronto-area contests, said one senior Tory insider, who spoke on condition they not be named.

"The two Ontario ridings, I think the writing's on the wall on those," said the source, who picked Justin Trudeau's Liberals to win both fights.

"If there's a race, the two horses in that race are going to be the NDP and Liberals."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tighter control. Justice Department cuts $1.2M from its research budget

The federal Justice Department has chopped $1.2 million from its research budget, and is tightening control to ensure future legal research is better aligned with the government's law-and-order agenda.

Previous legal research in the department sometimes caught senior officials "off-guard ... and may even have run contrary to government direction," says an internal report for deputy minister William Pentney.

The reduction means the loss of eight experienced legal researchers, most of them social scientists.

The result is a diminished research capacity, which now must be better controlled from the top to ensure it supports the government policies, says the report.

"The review confirmed that there have been examples of work that was not aligned with government or departmental priorities," says the October 2013 document, obtained by The Canadian Press under the Access to Information Act.

Some past projects have "at times left the impression that research is undermining government decisions."

The report did not cite specific studies, but a department report last year on public confidence in the justice system appeared to be at odds with the Conservative government's agenda.

Researcher Charlotte Fraser found many Canadians lacked confidence in the courts and prison system, but suggested it was the result of misunderstanding rather than any failures in the system, and that education could rectify the problem.

Critics said the finding was contrary to the government's approach, which is to pass tougher laws and impose harsher penalties rather than to cultivate a better-informed public. THE CANADIAN PRESS

'Significant loss'

The budget cut on April 1 this year — described as a "significant loss of resources" — represents about 20 per cent of research spending, and arises from deficit-cutting measures first set out in the 2012 budget.

#ohthatswhatthefloorlookslike

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Insurgents say Ukraine region votes overwhelmingly for sovereignty

Two referendums. Results could hasten country's breakup

Ninety per cent of voters in a key industrial region in eastern Ukraine came out in favour of sovereignty Sunday, pro-Russian insurgents said in announcing preliminary results of a twin referendum that is certain to deepen the turmoil in the country.

Roman Lyagin, election chief of the self-styled Donetsk People's Republic, said around 75 per cent of the Donetsk region's three million or so eligible voters cast ballots, and the vast majority backed self-rule.

With no international election monitors in place, it was all but impossible to verify the insurgents' claims.

The preliminary vote count was announced just two hours after the polls closed in an election conducted via paper ballots.

A second referendum organized by pro-Russian separatists was held Sunday in eastern Ukraine's industrial Luhansk region, but no immediate results were released.

Ukraine's central government and the West had condemned the balloting as a sham and a violation of international law, and they have accused Moscow of orchestrating the unrest in a possible attempt to grab another piece of the country weeks after the annexation of Crimea.

The results of the two referendums could hasten the breakup of the country and worsen what is already the gravest crisis between the West and Russia since the end of the Cold War.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ukrainians living in Russia queue to get their referendum ballot papers and vote in Moscow on Sunday. Residents of two restive regions in eastern Ukraine cast ballots Sunday in referendums that seek approval for declaring sovereign people's republics in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bloodshed

Shooting in east Ukraine

Armed men identified as Ukrainian national guard opened fire Sunday on a crowd outside a town hall in eastern Ukraine, and an official for the region's insurgents said there were an unspecified number of deaths. The bloodshed in the town of Krasnoarmeisk occurred hours after dozens of armed men shut down voting in a referendum on sovereignty for the region. One of them identified the group as being national guardsmen. An Associated Press photographer who witnessed the shooting said two people were seen lying unmoving on the ground.

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"You throw the clothes away" — Scan the photo below with your Metro News app to watch the ROM team tackle the smelly business of carving up a whale.

Brett Crawford, left, and Mike Thom cut up the carcass of a blue whale in Woody Point, N.L., on Sunday, May 11.
PAUL DALY/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Blue whale racks up large price tag

Trout River. The man leading the Royal Ontario Museum's effort to dismantle the large mammal says the job is getting expensive

The Royal Ontario Museum's experts have made progress carving and dismantling the dead blue whale. KATE ALLEN/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The skeleton can eventually become part of an exhibit at the museum.
KATE ALLEN/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Newfoundlanders who want to keep at least one of two giant blue whales that washed ashore on the west coast of the island may get their wish.

The man leading the Royal Ontario Museum's effort to dismember and transport those remains to Toronto says he must review plans to handle both carcasses.

"My commitment when I came in was to do at least one whale and my hope is to do both of them," Mark Engstrom, deputy director of collections and research for the museum, said during a break from the smelly job.

"We're doing the Trout River whale and then I have to reassess my budget and see where I am in terms of whether or not I can actually do the Rocky Harbour whale," he said.

Those extra costs include towing the first carcass from Trout River to adjacent Woody Point where it could more easily be worked on, Engstrom said. The second body is still resting in shallow water near the Rocky Harbour fish plant in Gros Morne National Park.

They are among nine rare and endangered whales that became trapped in pack ice earlier this spring.

Rocky Harbour Mayor Walter Nicolle had expressed relief when the museum offered to add the whales to its collection and make scientific data available to global researchers.

Engstrom declined to discuss the budget. But he said in an earlier interview that the museum's expenses would reach tens of thousands of dollars and he hoped they wouldn't exceed $100,000.

Local businesswoman Jenny Parsons is part of the new Trout River Blue Whale Committee hoping to establish its own exhibit. The idea that both whales would go to Ontario was seen by many as a lost opportunity.

But as the federal government passed responsibility to the province and provincial officials stayed quiet, the museum stepped in.

The big question is who would pay to take responsibility for the second whale. Parsons' group wants to start raising funds and resources.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

B.C.

Highway of Tears progress delayed

Mayors and other leaders say the province has yet to contact them about what needs to happen to protect women along a stretch of highway in northern British Columbia known as the Highway of Tears.

What emerges is a picture of slow progress that appears to contradict the province's claims that it has been holding meetings about the issue with local governments.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Kootenay region

Woman killed in canoe accident

A 19-year-old woman is dead and three male youths are missing after a canoe overturned in a lake in B.C.'s West Kootenay region.

RCMP Sgt. Darryl Little says emergency crews were called to Slocan Lake Saturday, where they found the woman and rushed her to hospital. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Zebra mussels. Manitoba to combat invasive species

They are small clam-like creatures that seem to spread in the blink of an eye and squeeze the life out of the rivers and lakes they inhabit.

This summer, those who grapple with zebra mussels will watch Manitoba, where officials are using a unique experiment to stop an invasion.

Once the ice recedes on Lake Winnipeg, a silk curtain will be lowered to the lake floor to seal four infested harbours.

Liquid potash will then be pumped into the water until it reaches a lethal concentration for the mussels.

The technique has been tried in a closed quarry, but it is believed this is the first time it will be used in open water.

The potash plan will cost $500,000, but many say it could save millions down the road if it works.

Those who depend on the lake for their livelihoods are concerned about the experiment and the impact it could have on the short fishing season. THE CANADIAN PRESS

A group of zebra mussels, taken from Lake Erie, are seen in this undated photo. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Vietnam vets honoured four decades later

The name of U.S. army Spc. Alan Leslie Seamans, of Grafton County, N.H., appears on the wall of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington. A ceremony Sunday marked the addition of 14 new names to the memorial, including Seamans, bringing the total to 58,300. JOSE LUIS MAGANA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Monument set to reopen after nearly 3 years

Restoration. Memorial honouring George Washington closed since 2011 earthquake caused severe damage

More than 150 cracks have been repaired, rainwater leaks have been sealed, and the 130-year-old Washington Monument is set to reopen Monday for the first time in nearly three years since an earthquake caused extensive damage.

The memorial honouring George Washington was closed about 33 months for engineers to conduct an extensive analysis and to restore the 555-feet-high stone obelisk, once the world's tallest structure.

The Washington Monument prior to the reopening.
MOLLY RILEY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The monument's white marble and mortar were cracked and shaken loose during an unusual 5.8-magnitude earthquake in August 2011 that sent some of the worst vibrations to the top. Debris fell inside and outside the monument, and visitors scrambled to evacuate. Later, engineers evaluated the damage by rappelling from the top, dangling from ropes.

Now new exhibits have been installed, and visitors can once again ride an elevator to look out from the highest point in the nation's capital.

The full restoration cost $15 million US. Businessman and philanthropist David Rubenstein contributed $7.5 million US to pay half the cost and expedite the repairs.

The monument normally draws about 700,000 visitors annually. THE ASSOCIATED PRESSW

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Should you buy into the Alibaba IPO?

HOW TO ROLL
Alison Griffiths
metronews.ca

Is it time to start saving your pennies for a run at Chinese Internet monolith Alibaba when it comes to a stock exchange near you? Perhaps.

First of all, it's going to be a humdinger of an initial public offering (IPO). When Alibaba Group Holding Ltd. shares are listed sometime this year on either the New York Stock Exchange or NASDAQ, the company could have a market value anywhere from $175 to $250 billion US. That will make it one of the largest companies on the planet; perhaps it will even crack the top 10.

Quick guess. What is the largest company in the world? Apple Inc., Wal-Mart Stores Inc., Exxon Mobil Corp.? Nope. According to Forbes Magazine, top spot goes to Industrial & Commercial Bank of China Ltd. (ICBC), a Chinese bank, with assets of $3.1 trillion.

But if you rank companies by market capitalization — i.e., the value of shares outstanding — Apple wins at $483 billion, followed by Exxon, Google Inc. and Microsoft Corp.

Back to Alibaba. As is the case with most IPOs, there will probably be an investor honeymoon throughout what is called the lockup period. It usually lasts from 90 to 180 days after the IPO launch during which insiders, such as owners or founders, cannot sell their shares.

When a lockup period expires, listed companies often sag. Remember Facebook Inc.? It had a number of lockup periods, which isn't typical for IPOs. When the first one expired, the shares plummeted to just under $20, a loss of about 50 per cent.

However, Alibaba is a very different company than Facebook. Unlike the social media networking giant, it is vastly diversified as the largest e-commerce company in China. Part virtual shopping mall and part Internet payment service with a dash of B2B and B2C (business-to-business and business-to-consumer) marketplace, Alibaba has its fingers in everything to do with online consumption in the world's most populous country.

And, as Business Week staffer Drake Bennett recently put it, "China, it seems, has only begun to shop."

Nonetheless, technology IPOs are notoriously risky. If you do manage to get your hands on some shares early on, watch the stock price carefully and consider selling half before the lock-up period expires.

Through the (unintentional) looking glass

It seems the new Shangri-La hotel on the upper floors of the Shard — a famous skyscraper in London (pictured here) — offers rooms with a view, but it isn't always what guests expect. A design quirk means glass panels protruding from the building can act as mirrors once internal lights are switched on at night, so in some rooms it's possible to get a glimpse of neighbouring guests. The hotel's general manager said blinds are available for privacy. Guests will be advised when they check in. TEXT: THE ASSOCIATED PRESS; PHOTO: PETER MACDIARMID/GETTY IMAGES

London's billionaires

U.K.'s capital city now the capital city for billionaires

A new study of the super-rich finds that London, U.K., has become the capital of the world's wealthiest, with more billionaires than any other city.

The Sunday Times, which published the list, says London has 72 residents whose fortunes exceed 1 billion pounds ($1.6 billion US). That's well ahead of Moscow, at 48, New York, at 43, San Francisco at 42, Los Angeles at 38 or Hong Kong at 34.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sorry, not sorry?

Nintendo sorry, but still won't add gay avatars

Nintendo is apologizing and pledging to be more inclusive after being criticized for not recognizing same-sex relationships in English editions of a life-simulator video game. But the publisher said it was too late to change the game.

Nintendo came under fire from fans and gay rights organizations this past week after refusing to add same-sex relationship options to the game Tomodachi Life.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Low-carb pasta?!

If it seems too good to be true, it usually is ...

A company accused of falsely advertising the health benefits of its nationally distributed Dreamfields Pasta has agreed to pay $5 million US to consumers as part of a class-action settlement.

The complaint accuses Carrington, N.D.-based Dakota Growers Pasta and its parent company of bogus claims that the product was a low-carbohydrate alternative to traditional pasta.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bankruptcy. Battle over Nortel assets set to begin

A complex trial to determine how billions of dollars in Nortel Networks Corp.'s remaining assets are to be divided begins Monday in a pricey cross-border hearing that's considered the first of its kind.

Lawyers for former employees, pensioners and creditors will descend on two courtrooms — one in Toronto and the other in Delaware City — to argue over who gets a share of $7.3 billion US from the sale of the former technology giant's patents and other assets from its international operations.

What's unique is the sheer magnitude of the proceeding, which is considered one of the biggest bankruptcy trials in Canadian history, and the escalating costs associated with it.

The cost of the Nortel case has climbed to $1.185 billion since early 2009, according to an estimate from Diane Urquhart, an independent adviser assisting former Nortel employees.

Expenses range from legal fees to cutting-edge technology that links the two courtrooms — each expected to be filled with lawyers.

At its height in 1999 to 2000, Nortel was worth nearly $300 billion, employed more than 90,000 people globally and was regarded as one Canada's most valuable companies. In 2009, the company filed for bankruptcy in North America and Europe, shedding thousands of jobs.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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ELECTION SEASON: TIME TO GET A DOG

URBAN COMPASS

Steve Collins
ottawa@metronews.ca

It was a glorious Saturday morning, not quite 11. The sun was once again strong enough to bring joy, but also sunburn, so maybe it wasn't unusual that she showed up at my door wearing a wide-brimmed hat and sunglasses. It still looked like it might be a disguise. The mutt noticed her before I did, and alerted me with a couple of businesslike barks. He sounds incredibly serious, but he's an indiscriminately affectionate goofball and just excited to greet company.

In contrast, it's increasingly rare that I'm interested in talking to strangers who arrive uninvited on my doorstep. Sometimes I just don't say anything reassuring about the mutt's gentle good character as I make a show of struggling to contain his enthusiasm. It tends to shorten the discussion.

The lady in the hat and sunglasses was a campaign worker for Martin Forget, the Progressive Conservative candidate in Ottawa-Vanier. I smiled and nodded, wrestled the rampaging beast away from her and took the leaflet, which went in the blue box with the one from the NDP's Hervé Ngamby. It's arguably my job to be curious, maybe ask a couple of questions, but I just wanted to get back to my Saturday and wish her a good one, too. Somewhere else.

My riding is not what we call a battleground. It's gone Liberal since approximately the Big Bang. Federally, since the current riding boundaries were drawn in 1974, it's been represented by only two MPs. That's 40 years, 12 elections and one byelection (after Liberal No. 1 Jean-Robert Gauthier retired and Liberal No. 2 Mauril Bélanger took over).

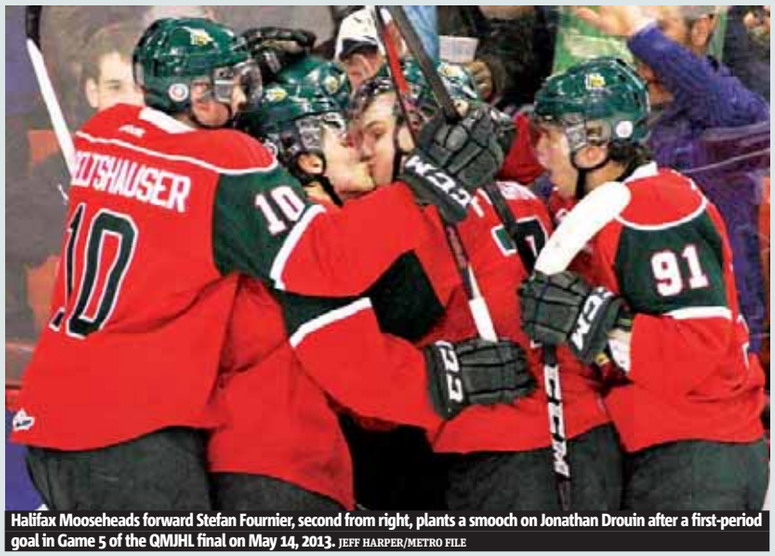
Liberal MPP Madeleine Meilleur pulled just over 50 per cent of the vote in the last three provincial elections. It's a pretty grim slog for the other parties, and maybe understandable if their long string of defeats has volunteers door-knocking incognito. It's also no thrill-ride for voters, and turnout tends to be slack. Whether the local Grit dynasty is cause or effect of the poor participation, it can be enervating to feel like the outcome's predetermined and your vote doesn't count. It's a self-fulfilling prophecy, of course: If you don't cast a vote, it definitely won't count. Voter turnout, though, is weak everywhere these days, and in 2011, for the first time, less than half of Ontarians bothered trooping to the polling station. This all-time low beat the previous low-voter mark of 52 per cent set in 2007. If we really, really don't try, maybe we can set a new record this year.

Those who solicit our ballots haven't produced very compelling strategies for attracting them. Even as fewer and fewer of us vote, we're subjected to increasingly sophisticated and somewhat creepy profiling in party databases — and nobody, to my knowledge, has ever been happy to get a robocall, legit or otherwise.

On balance, I guess I'll take the unsolicited campaign visits, even from people whose eyes I can't see, until the campaign ends in June. Not long after that, our municipal candidates will start the door-knocking in earnest for this fall's vote, and then the countdown to the federal election begins. At least the mutt will enjoy the visitors.

ZOOM

Smooching Moose for the win



Halifax Mooseheads forward Stefan Fournier, second from right, plants a smooch on Jonathan Drouin after a first-period goal in Game 5 of the QMJHL final on May 14, 2013. JEFF HARPER/METRO FILE

Metro photographer gets the prize

A picture-perfect moment of two Halifax Mooseheads players celebrating a goal during last year's QMJHL final — by locking lips, no less — has landed a Metro Halifax photographer an Atlantic Journalism Award.

Jeff Harper was one of three finalists in the category of newspaper photojournalism feature at Saturday night's awards ceremony in Halifax. METRO

Brotherly love captured in a kiss

Harper won for his once-in-a-lifetime shot of jubilant Mooseheads Jonathan Drouin and Stefan Fournier celebrating a goal with a quick brotherly smooch during Game 5 of the QMJHL final against the Baie-Comeau Drakkar at the Metro Centre.

Halifax won that game, and the series in five games, to take home its first-ever President's Cup title. The photo was shared by thousands and received media coverage from outlets across Canada. METRO

Swept up

"It was in the moment and I'm going to kiss my brother.... By the way, for all the ladies out there, Jo's a great kisser."

Stefan Fournier,
commenting last May on teammate Jonathan Drouin's technique

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MetroTube

Not all whale stories end in explosions and bits and pieces

ANDREW FIFIELD
metronews.ca

You only need cast your eyes to the blue whales that washed up on the shores of Newfoundland to learn that it's been a tough few weeks for threatened whale populations.

But at least there's a glimmer of good cetacean news from the southern hemisphere, courtesy of New Zealand skipper Joe Brogan, who leaped into the ocean to free a baby humpback that had become entangled in trap lines. Don't dwell too much on the fact a whale was entangled in netting to begin with. (Via Joe Brogan/YouTube)

ISTOCK PHOTO

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See that symbol? It means you can scan the photograph below with your Metro News app. Hamlet on the highway? Find out why Locke deserves the comparison

SCENE

Ebooks

Circa 1948

By. Stan Douglas & The NFB

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Kris Abel
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Like a ghost in the past drawn to the voices of the living, this exploration of post-war Vancouver offers 44 historically researched eavesdropping tales of immigrants, newlyweds, war vets, and politicians discussing anxieties and corruptions similar to today. Although glitchy at times, the vintage music and the way you can snoop through people's belongings help make the time travel feel atmospheric.

Television

Lost creators fess up to a few flops

Lost creators Damon Lindelof and Carlton Cuse have admitted what fans and haters have said all along: much of the mostly gripping TV show really wasn't any good.

The mysterious drama had several strong seasons but petered out and lost many fans as it stumbled to its love-it-or-hate-it finale.

"We did 121 hours of Lost. Arguably only 15 to 20 of them were subpar, bordering on turds," Lindelof tells Esquire magazine.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Locke took director on an unconventional ride

Making the ordinary mesmerizing. Directing Locke was just the kind of challenge Steven Knight was looking for

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News in Hollywood

Actor Tom Hardy and director Steven Knight attend the Locke Premiere during the 70th Venice International Film Festival at the Sala Darsena in Venice, Italy, in September, 2013. GARETH CATTERMOLE/GETTY IMAGES

Prolific British writer and director Steven Knight wanted to do something unconventional when he came up with the idea of Locke, a film about an ordinary man (Tom Hardy) driving across England while dealing with personal and professional crises via speakerphone. What's unique is that the entire story is told from within the car, seemingly in real time. It was an idea so unique, Knight found, that some car companies didn't want any part of it.

Where did the idea to do such a contained setting for a film come from?

I'd just finished making a conventional film, and a couple of things had happened. One was that I'd noticed how beautiful and hypnotic urban environments at night shot from inside moving vehicles are. You get this moving light show, which I found quite beautiful. At the same time I was trying to take filmmaking back to the very basics of what the job is, which is to get a load of people into a room, turn off the lights, and have them engage with a screen. How many other ways are there of doing that? To make life more difficult for myself, I wanted to make the main character the most ordinary person in the world — he's married, he's got two kids, he works in construction with concrete. There is nothing about him that would make the papers. This is a very ordinary tragedy, and I just wondered if audiences would go with it.

And how did you go about getting Tom Hardy involved?

He was quite keen to play a straight role because he's always larger-than-life monsters or villains or whatever. This is probably his first straight role as an actor. It was Tom who brought the Welsh accent into it because he's got a friend who's Welsh, and he said, "He's a very ordinary, straight person so I'll do that voice." The character was always going to be concrete, he was always going to be ordinary, and then Tom invested that with the thing that he brings to every role.

So how did you like the BMW?

It was fine, but originally we were going for a Land Rover, and they didn't want to do it. Because it's such a weird concept and weird idea, I think people just thought we were mad. And so we went to BMW. A lot of people have asked, "So did you get some sort of great deal from BMW?" But we didn't. They just said, "You can have two vehicles for 10 days, and then give them back to us at the end." That was it. Retrospectively, I wish I had made more of it.

The car comes off very well in the film.

I know! It never breaks down or anything (laughs).

DC's Constantine gets a spot on the small screen

The DC Comics character John Constantine will be among the new faces on the network this fall.

Played by Keanu Reeves on the big screen in 2005, John Constantine is the anti-hero of the Hellblazer comics, which were first introduced in the 1980s. Mysterious and sarcastic, the former con man becomes a paranormal detective with the goal of protecting humanity from evil. In the DC Comics version, John Constantine takes on superpowers through his knowledge of black magic and the occult.

The TV version will be headed up by Daniel Cerone, a writer and producer on The Mentalist, and David S. Goyer, who is somewhat of a specialist when it comes to adapting comics for the screen. In particular, Goyer penned screenplays for Blade, The Crow, Ghost Rider, Christopher Nolan's Batman trilogy and Man of Steel. He is currently working on stories and screenplays for the sequel to Man of Steel (tentatively titled Batman vs. Superman) and for Justice League.

In the new NBC series, Constantine will be played by Welsh actor Matt Ryan. Former Lost star Harold Perrineau will play his guardian angel. AFP

Matt Ryan will play John Constantine this fall on NBC. CONTRIBUTED

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OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Michael and Sarah have a ball at the Met Gala

STARGAZING
Malene Arpe
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Michael Sheen and Sarah Silverman are photographed walking the Met Gala red carpet together. Now they just have to do the required Couples' Trip to the Grocery Store and the relationship will be official.

The words and wisdom of Shailene Woodley: 1) Shailene tells David Letterman she eats clay because "clay binds to other materials in your body and helps your body excrete those materials — that are not necessarily the best for you." 2) Shailene tells TIME that she isn't a feminist because she "loves men" and she doesn't want to "raise women to power, take the men away from the power." 3) She says that making popcorn "is just a weird ritual and it's the best thing on the planet."

Cressida Bonas is on "compassionate leave" from work after her break-up from Prince Harry. Back in my day we just took two Valium and sucked it up.

This week in feuds: 1) Mike Epps calls comedian Kevin Hart "overrated." 2) George Clooney attacks Steve Wynn in an open letter. 3) Seth Rogen has had enough of Justin Bieber and calls him a "piece of bleep." 4) Back in my day we just ... no, we pretty much just talked about our enemies to the press, too.

Dr. Diddy is a unicorn — and you are too

Sean "Diddy" Combs was awarded an honorary doctorate on Saturday from Howard University in Washington, D.C., where he studied business for two years before dropping out in 1990 to pursue music.

Some of the speech was filled with odd Diddy-isms. "I am a unicorn," he told the Class of 2014. "You are a unicorn. We are unicorns."

However, he did impart this piece of excellent wisdom: "Nobody is going to invite you to the front of the line; you've got to push your way to the front of the line."

Diddy

Ellen Page ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Singer allegations are 'super disturbing,' Page says

While Bryan Singer has kept quiet in the wake of his numerous sexual abuse allegations and mounting civil suits, at least one of his X-Men: Days of Future Past stars is addressing the issue.

Ellen Page finds the allegations "super, super disturbing" in an interview with the Hollywood Reporter. "I guess the truth will come out in the way that it does, but it's hard to hear about someone being in that situation, someone you like working with," she says, adding that whether or not the allegations against Singer are true, "I do think that there's a systematic issue of people in places of power manipulating and abusing young people."

Courtney Love

Brand was a wee bit too stinky for Love

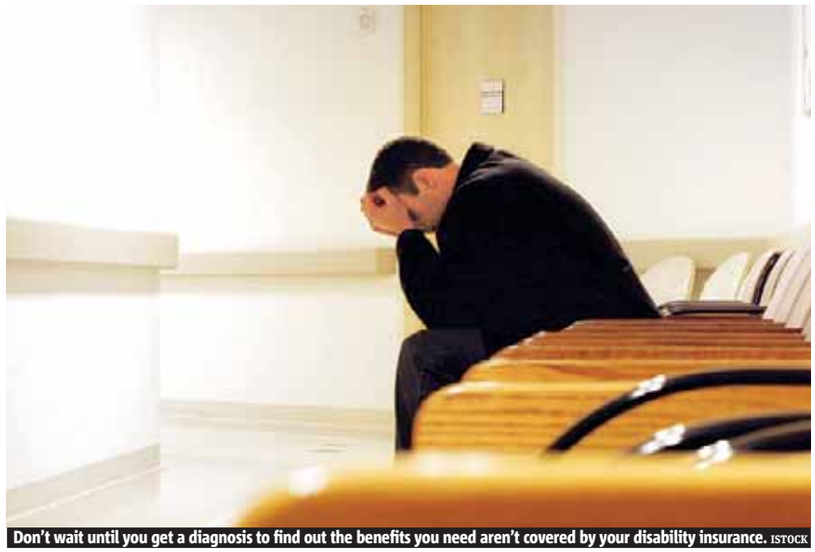
Courtney Love says that she might have warmed to Russell Brand's advances if it weren't for his odour. "My favourite Russell Brand line was when we first were friends and he tried to hit on me and nothing ever happened," Love tells British talk-show host Alan Carr. "He goes, 'I've had a lot of grand conversations, darling, but none of them ever ended in an orgasm. Can we go to your room?' He's got some good lines."

Apparently not good enough to overcome the smell, however. "I said to Russell, 'You're too musky for me, man,'" she says. "He is a little musky. We did yoga together and the musk was there."

Don't get laid up by disability plan

Sicker shock. Read fine print and tailor coverage to avoid being caught out

GAIL VAZ-OXLADE
Gail blogs daily at gailvazoxlade.com



Don't wait until you get a diagnosis to find out the benefits you need aren't covered by your disability insurance. ISTOCK

Imagine the horror of being diagnosed with a progressively debilitating disease. Imagine the relief of knowing that while you have to stop working, you have a group disability plan that will help to make ends meet. Imagine your disbelief when your claim is declined by the insurance company because you just aren't disabled enough in their eyes. It happened to a girlfriend of mine and it could happen to you.

If you want to avoid a nasty surprise when you can least afford it financially and emotionally, take these questions to your benefits administrator at work and make sure you understand the answers you're given.

What's the policy's definition of "disabled" and how long will benefits be paid?
If you can't do the job you were hired to do, will you be paid regardless of what other work you may be able to find? Will partial benefits be paid if you can only work for a few hours a day? A weak definition of disabled can be one of the biggest holes in a plan.

Carol had a disability plan that covered her for her "own occupation" for two years, after which it reverted to "any occupation," which is pretty typical of a group plan. The only way Carol could continue to collect after two years is if she were unable to do any work at all. If the insurance company deemed she could be a parking lot attendant, they wouldn't pay.

How much am I covered for, and how will it be taxed?
Most group policies cover employees for a certain percentage of their salaries — often 60 to 75 per cent. Some also have a cumulative maximum. But many people have no idea how much they're covered for or even if their disability income will be taxed. Many group policies paid for by an employer generate income that is not taxed. If you pay the premiums directly from your after-tax income, or if your premium is a taxable benefit, then the money you receive on a claim is tax-free.

If you find that the income you receive from your disability coverage is taxed, the next question is this: Will the money be enough once tax is taken?

Does my policy have a residual disability feature?
In the case of a slow recovery or deterioration because of a progressive disease, this feature becomes very important. Without it, years may pass before your claim can begin because you must meet the insurance company's definition of "totally disabled." Since most group plans have limited benefits for residual disabilities, the seams of your safety net may not be as strong as you think they are.

What are the exclusions on my policy?
An exclusion is something you aren't covered for. Typical exclusions include travel outside Canada, pre-existing conditions, mental, nervous disclosure, and alcoholism. The list can be wide and varied. If your malady falls within the list, you've got a hole in your safety net

People often don't carry individual disability insurance because they believe their group coverage is fine. Smart people who want to make sure that they are well-protected don't rely on the off-the-shelf version. They look to an individual policy to supplement it. Carol bought low-cost private coverage that would kick in after the first two years of her group coverage expired. This group offset insurance is cheap because the wait period (the time before benefits are paid) is so long.

The other important issue in favour of an individual policy is that you may not always have your group plan. A change in jobs, the decision to stay home to raise a family, or self-employment could all leave you with no coverage.

It's complicated
Buying disability coverage is complicated. Not only are there rigorous health criteria, you must also show proof of income relative to the coverage you're applying for. That often excludes new entrepreneurs from coverage at least until they have a two-year earnings history. And as you get older, not only does new coverage get more expensive, it becomes more difficult to qualify.

You need the help of a qualified insurance advisor when you go shopping for disability insurance. With so many sizes and styles out there, it's very easy to buy one that looks good on the hanger but just doesn't fit. Using a generalist may get you in trouble. The good fit comes with a fine tailor who can customize a disability plan just for you.

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What to look for

When shopping for an individual plan, look for:

- A policy that is non-cancellable and guaranteed renewable so that the contract cannot be changed or cancelled when you may not qualify for another plan.
- An inflation or cost-of-living rider, which is a good way to increase your monthly benefits. While this can be expensive, you must consider it in the context of the impact of inflation on your purchasing power.
- A future insurability rider, which will allow you to increase your benefits without additional health questions. If you anticipate significant increases in your future income, make sure you have this feature.

Did you know 72% of pain sufferers regularly have trouble sleeping?*

*Source: Data on file. Johnson & Johnson Inc. Analgesics Equity/U&A Research, 2010

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SHOPPERS DRUG MART

From moccasins and meadows to a high-heeled, haute couture career

A model upbringing?
North of Normal chronicles an unconventional childhood in the Canadian wilderness and its impact on a future in fashion

Cea Sunrise Person's modelling career has seen her living in New York, Los Angeles, Paris, Munich, Hamburg, Zurich and Milan. SHIMON KARMEL/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cea Sunrise Person graced magazines, catalogues, print ads and TV commercials for nearly two decades as an international model — a stark contrast to childhood years spent living in the Canadian wilderness.

In her memoir, North of Normal, Person chronicles her unconventional upbringing with her pot-growing, free-loving family dwelling in a teepee and living off the land. The book also reveals the challenges of life with her late mother Michelle as the duo left the family behind and Michelle pursued a string of topsy-turvy relationships.

The Vancouver-based author writes of her anti-establishment grandfather known as Papa Dick who decided to relocate the free-spirited family of hippies from California to Canada.

Eighteen months after Person's birth to her teen mom in 1969, her family relocated to a remote piece of land near a First Nations reserve in northern Alberta. Until the age of five, Person and her mother lived with Papa Dick, her grandmother and aunts in Kootenay Plains and Morley, Alta., hunting and gathering their food and creating a stove dubbed the Guzzler fashioned out of an old barrel.

"I had dresses made from hides ... my grandmother would sew my moccasins from leather she'd tanned herself," recalled Person in an interview, noting that the rest of her clothing came from Salvation Army when her grandfather made occasional trips into town.

Person, 44, recalled an "amazing feeling of freedom" as a self-described nature child galloping in the meadow and fields. But exposure to more adult activities as a youngster also left lingering memories for Person which she candidly shares in her memoir.

"I felt so alone in my experiences because how can you tell your friend when you're 10 years old you've seen and heard sex happen in front of you 100 times?.. Or that your mom smokes pot every day or that your mom's boyfriend does mushrooms?

"Putting it out there made me feel a lot less alone. And it made me feel like I hope that I can connect with some people out there who may have had the same experiences."

Despite seeing the writing experience as cathartic, she admits it was hard to write about her early teen years prior to starting modelling when she felt "rudderless."

"I wasn't the wilderness child anymore. I was terrified of my future because I didn't want to end up like my family. I didn't know what my escape route would be, but I desperately wanted a different life and I didn't know what it was going to be like."

Modelling helped to serve as an anchor, as Person worked full-time in the industry from age 13 to 30. While Person said she enjoyed the chance to travel to amazing locales, her memoir also illustrates the not-so-glamorous side of the business, like living in grungy apartments or seeing other girls battling bulimia.

Person credits her wilderness smarts and a resourcefulness and resilience built from childhood in being able to emerge relatively unscathed.

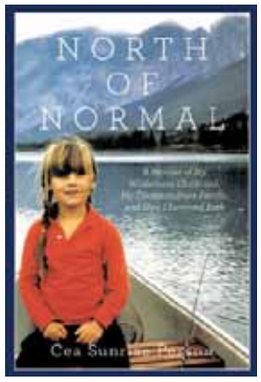
"It was a healthy escape for me. Even though the world of modelling has its dark side, for me, it was a saviour. It gave me the independence that I needed."

While she often felt like an outsider growing up and found difficulty forging friendships, Person was able to form those connections with other models, many of whom she remains close with today.

"The thing with modelling is it seems to attract a lot of people who do feel like outsiders in their own life," she said. "You end up being in these environments where you're working for a few days with someone from Sweden, someone from Texas, someone from Australia and you form friendships very quickly and learn about each other's life stories very quickly, and then you sometimes never see each other again, or you see each other again in a year.

"It's a very tight bond that you get with these girls because we're in such an interesting, weird world together."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Resilience on the runway

"Even though the world of modelling has its dark side, for me, it was a saviour. It gave me the independence that I needed."

Cea Sunrise Person
Author of North of Normal

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Finding great success in sensitivity

Cultural confusion.
Being aware of potentially problematic assumptions can halt harmful workplace situations before they happen

DAVID SINGH
life@metronews.ca

Handling a greeting in North America can put some in a difficult position. ISTOCK

We all know that Canadian workplaces are as diverse as they come. And we're proud of it, too. But that doesn't necessarily mean the office is exempt from cultural bias.

In fact, it creeps up all the time, according to Daria Kowalyk, a diversity and inclusion expert. "We all have biases," Kowalyk says. "Biases are shaped by all of our experiences, our upbringing, culture, the conversations we've had and where we've travelled.

"Each one of us is consciously or unconsciously biased about something, someone, or a group of people."

Kowalyk runs a new training program for Ontario employers, funded by the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration and the Human Resources Professionals Association. Its purpose is to help companies become more culturally aware and competent.

Eye contact at work is a common example that holds potential bias, Kowalyk claims.

In mainstream culture in North America, maintaining eye contact is a form of showing interest and engagement. If you don't keep eye contact, it could signal that you're disinterested. "But in a lot of different cultures, not maintaining eye contact actually is a sign of respect for the individual," says Kowalyk. "People who may not know of that may make an assumption about people's eye contact."

Same thing goes for handshaking. In Canada, it's common to meet and greet people with a handshake. But according to Kowalyk, people in some cultures don't do so because of religious or health concerns. Usha George, dean of the faculty of community services at Ryerson University notes biases can be silent and invisible.

"The problem with cultural bias is you can't detect it that often, fast, clearly, or that openly," she says. "You can foster or even have damning opinions about people and their cultures, but if you don't articulate that in spoken word or in your behaviour, there's no way of knowing that this person is really biased."

According to George, it's important to take note of biases because it can affect people.

"Depending on the severity of it, it could very well be a toxic workplace for the individual."

George notes that she has even witnessed extreme cases of cultural bias, leading to discrimination and racism. She says this can go on to affect the mental well-being of individuals. However, if you've ever had a culturally biased thought pop into your head, don't beat yourself up about it.

"Bias is part of human nature, so I wouldn't think that it's impossible not to have it," George said. "But if you take it for granted and say it does not exist, and don't pay attention, it will still be there and will increase."

Battling bias

Daria Kowalyk says there are quick, initial steps that employers can take to make their workplace more culturally competent, including:

- Becoming aware of important dates and religious holidays for all staff members.
- For restaurant outings or catered food events, make sure the menu accommodates everybody (vegans, vegetarians, gluten allergies, etc.).
- Hold a "holiday" event instead of a "Christmas" event.

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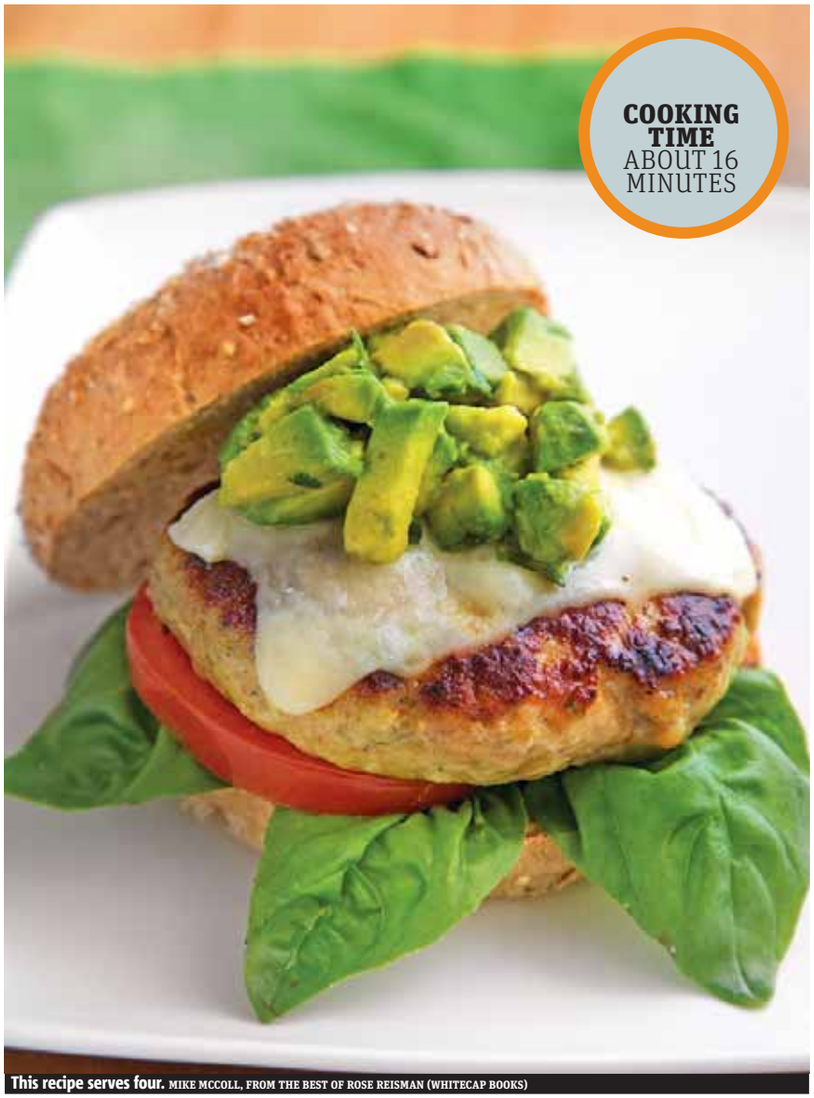
Grilled Chicken Pesto Burger: Give this summertime fave some California love



This recipe serves four. MIKE MCCOLL, FROM THE BEST OF ROSE REISMAN (WHITECAP BOOKS)

Grilling Week. Victoria Day officially launches barbecue season. Let Metro help kick it off with a week's worth of ideas for outdoor dining

ROSE REISMAN
For more, visit rosereisman.com or follow her on twitter @rosereisman

Come May Long Weekend, barbecue season will be in full swing. For my part, I love cooking up a great tasting burger.

In recent years we're being warned about ingesting excess amount of beef, so my go-to burger is a lean chicken patty, which screams "California cuisine" thanks to its lovely presentation and fresh approach. Just to compare, a ground 4 ounce beef burger will have close to double the calories and fat of a ground white chicken burger.

There's nothing better than a homemade burger, which gives you control of everything you're adding.

I like to buy a combination of both white and dark ground chicken, but you can use just white if you don't have both on hand.

The great flavour of this burger comes from the secret ingredient — pesto — which is added right to the meat.

I like to make my own pesto when basil is in season and freeze it in small containers for use all year. You can visit rosereisman.com for pesto recipes. You can also use store-bought pesto, but keep in mind that they tend to have excess oil, making them much higher in calories and fat.

The toppings of cheeses, avocado and tomatoes make this dish a winner.

You can prepare these burgers up to a day in advance. Simply cook them just before serving.

FLASH FOOD

From your fridge to your table in 30 minutes or less

Directions

1. Combine the ground chicken, egg, seasoned bread crumbs, homemade or store-bought pesto, crushed garlic, minced green onions, and salt and pepper.

2. When the ingredients for the patties are fully combined, form the mixture into 4 burgers.

3. Either grill or bake the burgers at 425 F until they are no longer pink, about 8 minutes per side, or until internal temperature reaches 165 F. Add the cheese and cook just until melted.

4. Place the cooked burgers on a multi-grain bun and garnish with diced avocado, tomatoes and basil leaves.

THE BEST OF ROSE REISMAN (WHITECAP BOOKS) BY ROSE REISMAN

Ingredients

- 1 lb ground white and dark ground chicken
- 1 egg
- 1/3 cup seasoned dry bread crumbs
- 2 tbsp pesto sauce
- 2 tsp crushed garlic
- 3 tbsp minced green onions
- pinch of salt and pepper
- 4 thin slices Monterey Jack or aged cheddar cheese (about 1 oz)
- 4 multi-grain burger buns
- 1/4 cup diced avocado
- 4 slices ripe tomatoes
- 8 basil leaves (optional)

Nutritional information

Per serving	
• **Calories.** 304	• **Total fat.** 20.8 g
• **Carbohydrates.** 3.5 g	• **Saturated fat.** 7.6 g
• **Fibre.** 6 g	• **Cholesterol.** 100 mg
• **Protein.** 23.7 g	• **Sodium.** 361 mg

Let maple syrup sweeten up those fries

Sweet potato fries are a popular food trend today, replacing the typical white potato french fries. They are more nutritious than white potatoes.

In fact, sweet potatoes are truly a superfood: a medium sweet potato contains more than your daily vitamin A requirement, a third of your vitamin C intake and 15 per cent of your daily fibre.

They are considered a low-glycemic food, which controls blood sugar levels and contain antioxidants that may help in the fight against cancer.

But you should beware of these orange fries in restaurants and in the frozen section of your supermarket as they are always deep-fried, adding excess calories and fat.

You can cut the potatoes for this Sweet Potato Wedges with Maple Syrup recipe any way you want — into large wedges, chunks or thin fries. Just watch the baking time, since smaller pieces will require less time.

Ingredients

- 2 large sweet potatoes (about 1 1/2 lb), unpeeled and scrubbed
- 2 tbsp vegetable oil
- 4 tsp maple syrup
- 3/4 tsp cinnamon
- 1/4 tsp ground ginger
- pinch of nutmeg
- 3 tbsp chopped parsley

1. Preheat the oven to 425 F. Lightly coat a rimmed baking sheet with cooking spray.

2. Cut the sweet potatoes in half lengthwise and then cut each half into 3/4-inch strips. Place on the prepared baking sheet.

3. Combine all the remaining ingredients except the parsley in a small bowl. Brush half the maple syrup mixture over the sweet potatoes.

4. Bake in the centre of the oven for about 10 minutes per side, brushing again halfway through with remaining mixture. Garnish with parsley.

ROSE REISMAN

This recipe serves six. ROSE REISMAN

MLB

Angels' Conger blasts off vs. Blue Jays in Toronto

Hank Conger homered and drove in five runs to power the Los Angeles Angels to a 9-3 victory over the Toronto Blue Jays on Sunday afternoon.

Conger had a run-scoring double in the fourth to put the Angels ahead 3-1, then belted a three-run shot in the sixth to make it 6-1 before a Rogers Centre gathering of 20,871. He singled to drive in another run in the ninth that put Los Angeles ahead 8-3.

Drew Hutchison (1-3) yielded just three hits but struggled with his command and lasted only 4 1/3 innings for the Jays.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Premier League

Man. City earns 2nd title in 3 years

Manchester City won the Premier League for the second time in three seasons on Sunday, completing its campaign with a comfortable 2-0 victory over West Ham that lacked the drama of its previous title.

Unlike the stoppage-time comeback required in the 2012 title decider, goals by Samir Nasri and Vincent Kompany provided a more serene end to what had been an exhilarating season.

"This year, we've really come on strong at the end when we needed to," City goalkeeper Joe Hart said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Habs in familiar territory trailing B's

NHL playoffs. Boston-Montreal Game 6 a repeat of 2011 series

David Desharnais of the Canadiens is excited about playing a must-win game Monday against the Bruins.
FRANCOIS LAPLANTE/FREESTYLE PHOTOGRAPHY/GETTY IMAGES FILE

The feeling of impending doom that seems to have descended on the Montreal Canadiens' fans had not reached the dressing room of their suburban training centre on Sunday afternoon.

Centre David Desharnais even saw the notion of competing in a must-win Game 6 of their NHL Eastern Conference semifinal against the Boston Bruins as fun.

The Canadiens trail the Bruins 3-2 ahead of the Monday night game at the Bell Centre.

Desharnais recalled that his team was in the same predicament against Boston in the first round in 2011 and ended up winning 2-1 before falling in overtime in Game 7.

"It's not the first time for all of us," said Desharnais. "It's fun. You play all year to be in this kind of situation, playing a big game at home. We need to take advantage of it."

A 4-2 defeat in Boston on Saturday night, in which conceding the Bruins' first two power-play goals of the series had them down 3-0 in the second period, has put the Canadiens on the brink of elimination.

A concern is that they haven't scored a goal at even strength in the last two games, including a 1-0 overtime loss in Game 4, which was the first time in four tries they failed to win on home ice in this year's playoffs.

But coach Michel Therrien said that was no reason to panic.

"We're playing the Boston Bruins," he said. "They were the best team in the NHL in the regular season, so you have to give them credit."

Going into the game in Boston, Therrien had called on his top offensive players to adjust better to the added intensity of playoff hockey.

Max Pacioretty, a 39-goal scorer in the regular season who has one in nine playoff games, responded with lots of energy. He tied with P.K Subban for the team lead with six shots on goal and assisted on Subban's power-play goal late in the third period.

Desharnais added three shots, but still has only one assist in the series.

And Thomas Vanek, who has been quiet since potting two power-play goals in Game 2, was also held off the scoresheet.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Online

Go to metronews.ca for more NHL playoff coverage, including last night's games.

Openly gay Sam feeling like 'first draft pick'

Michael Sam cries as he talks on a mobile phone after he was selected in the seventh round by the St. Louis Rams on Saturday. ESPN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

For an image gallery of the NFL draft, scan the image with the Metro News app.

Michael Sam waited and waited. Hours passed, rounds came and went, and eventually, there were only eight more picks left on the third and final day of the NFL draft.

For just a moment, it looked as if his chance of being picked by a pro team and becoming the league's first openly gay player might take a detour. Or at least be delayed.

The call finally came Saturday from the St. Louis Rams, the team right down the road from where Sam played his college ball at the University of Missouri.

Sam was selected in the seventh and final round and admitted it was a frustrating wait. He said teams that passed on him chickened out and he should have been drafted sooner.

"From last season alone, I should've been in the first three rounds. SEC Defensive Player of the Year, All-American," Sam said. He stopped short of directly saying his stock dropped in the draft because he came out.

"You know what, who knows? Who knows? Only the people who sit in the war room know," he said. "They saw Michael Sam, day after day they scratched it off the board. That was their loss. But St. Louis kept me on that board. And you know what? I feel like I'm a (Jadeveon) Clowney, a first draft pick. I'm proud of where I am now."

Sam came out as gay in media interviews earlier this year. His team and coaches knew his secret and kept it for his final college season. He went on to have the best year of his career: He was the co-defensive player of the year in the NCAA's best football conference and had 11.5 sacks.

When Mike Kensil, the NFL's vice-president of game operations, walked to the podium and said: "The St. Louis Rams select ... Michael Sam...." the fans gave a hearty cheer, chanting "Yes! Yes! Yes!" and "Michael Sam!"

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

4 SPORTS

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1 in 3 Canadian families cannot afford to enrol their kids in organized sports or physical activity programs. Jumpstart changes that!
Jumpstart

Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

7		3		4		1	9	
	1	9						
			5					4
3		8	6					
9			1		4			7
					3	5		8
5					2			
						4	6	
	4	2		9		7		3

Friday's Sudoku

3	8	7	2	5	4	1	6	9
5	9	1	6	7	8	3	4	2
2	6	4	9	1	3	7	5	8
8	4	9	5	3	1	6	2	7
6	1	5	7	8	2	4	9	3
7	3	2	4	6	9	5	8	1
9	5	3	1	2	6	8	7	4
4	7	8	3	9	5	2	1	6
1	2	6	8	4	7	9	3	5

Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
Rivals seem to know what you are doing, even when you are not sure. That puts you at a disadvantage. Either be more secretive or find ways to tap in more effectively to what's going on around you.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
Be true and resist temptation to cut corners merely because no one can stop you. This is a great time for group activities and it will be even better if you are all working together on the same ethical level.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
With Mercury, your ruler, linked to ambitious Mars as the new week begins, there is no reason why you should not reach the top of the tree in your chosen career. Yes, you do have what it takes.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
Trust your instincts and keep on trusting them even when the powers that be say you've got it all wrong. Listen to what your inner voice is trying to say and then act on what it tells you. You don't need any other advice.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
Something you have kept secret for a long time will come to the surface over the next few days. In a way it will be a relief as you will no longer have to play games and pretend to be who and what you know you are not.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Don't try to keep your thoughts to yourself today because loved ones will be able to read on your face what it is you are hiding. Be honest about what is going on in your head and your heart.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Some things may seem funny to you but not everyone will laugh at your jokes today. Most likely it's because they resent you being the centre of attention all the time. That's too bad — the limelight is there to be hogged.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
This is a positive and potentially passionate time for you but to make the most of it you have got to be more outgoing. Let those you are attracted to know that you are interested — don't leave them guessing.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Try not to come on too strong when debating with others. You may have all the best opinions and the facts and figures are certainly on your side but make allowances for those who don't share your passion for the truth.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You seem amazingly open at the moment, which is great. But watch out you don't let slip information that it might be sensible to keep to yourself. You don't have to tell everyone about everything.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
If you are looking for ways to make money you will come up with plenty of ideas over the next 24 hours. The only danger is you may do nothing with them. One good idea acted on is better than a dozen that just sit there.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
You will be more inclined than usual to take risks. So long as they are calculated risks that's fine – you will come to no harm and could even make money – but if you act recklessly the fall could be spectacular. SALLY BROMPTON

Up-to-date scores
Canada TOP 5

1. **178 points,** Saudah - *Toronto*
2. **157 points,** Brad - *Ottawa*
3. **155 points,** Niramay - *Toronto*
4. **155 points,** Samir - *Toronto*
5. **147 points,** Ritik - *Vancouver*

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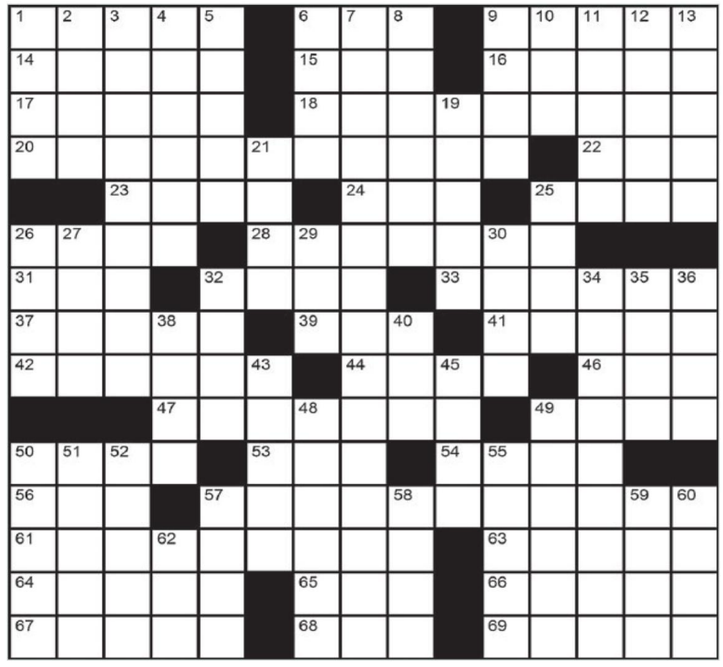
Friday's Crossword

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



Across

1. Ottawa's 'Parliaments', e.g.
6. Canadian broadcaster Erica
9. Mark __ ('Shark' on ABC's "Shark Tank")
14. Off-white
15. PBS funding org.
16. Repent
17. __ closet
18. British band, The __ (See #7-Down for more!)
20. William and Harry's dad, one day: 2 wds.
22. Meshwork
23. Title in Turkey [var. sp]
24. Israel: __ Aviv
25. Tidying target
26. Pouches
28. Montreal-born actress Rachelle
31. 'Smell'-meaning prefix
32. Mr. Bridges
33. Dodges
37. Important exam
39. "Unpretty" group
41. Inference
42. 'The New Classic' Australian artist Iggy
44. Retreat
46. Vintage record label
47. "__ Annie" (1933) starring Canadian actress Marie Dressler
49. Acme
50. Inventor, Thomas __ Edison
53. Lummox
54. __ __. Hall: "Harper Valley P.T.A." songwriter
56. US auditing agcy.
57. __-__ (Like green rocks)
61. Instrument for Canadian musician Walter Ostanek
63. Thwart
64. Canadian actress Ms. Katic
65. Baby bear
66. Toxin type
67. Stephen __, Bank of Canada governor
68. Utah's capital [acronym]
69. Chooses

Down

1. Defraud
2. Nero's 57
3. Iroquoian Chief of Stadacona (Present-day Quebec City)
4. Musician Mr. Allman's
5. Harmonization, briefly
6. One-named singer
7. Song by #18-Across that goes "She's been gone such a long time...": 4 wds.
8. Actress Ms. Matlin
9. Bus alternatives
10. __ possidetis (As you possess, at law)
11. 'Sea' suffix (Carried by the ocean)
12. South American mountains
13. Soarer's structures
19. Inquire
21. Healthy
25. Honey drink
26. Furniture piece
27. NBC's "Parks and Recreation" star Mr. Ansari
29. Dine
30. Campsite visitor, e.g.
32. Cordon __ (Great chef)
34. British Columbia: Sparwood attraction 'Terex Titan' is a gigantic what?: 2 wds.
35. "Behold!" to Brutus
36. Classic record label
38. Edmonton's prov.
40. Motorists org.
43. Be kind, Do _ __ turn
45. Be not-nice, Stick __ __
48. ABCs
49. Joni Mitchell song that goes "The drone of flying engines..."
50. Audibly amazed
51. 'Milk'-meaning prefix
52. Singer's helper, __ Coach
55. Blatant
57. "I'm Yours" singer Jason
58. "Squawk Box" network
59. Ms. Brickell, Paul Simon's wife
60. Shelters
62. Lennon's love

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